Evaluation of Change Point Detection Algorithms for Application in Big Data Mini-term 4.0

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Abstract: The present study analyses in depth the algorithms of change point detection in time series for the prediction of failures through the monitoring of mini-terms in real time. The mini-term is a new concept in the area of failure prediction that is based on the measurement of the time it takes for a component to perform its task. The simplicity of the technique has made it feasible to build industrial Big Data for the prediction of failures based on this concept. There are currently more than 11,000 sensorized mini-terms at Ford factory in Almussafes (Valencia). For the present study, 10 representative real cases of the different change points that have been detected up to the present were selected and, these cases were analysed by using the change point algorithms, which are representative of the great majority of algorithms described in the literature in their different versions. As a result, their accuracy was measured when detecting the change point and its computational cost. A discussion of the results is shown at the end of the paper.

1 INTRODUCTION

The manufacturing industry is experiencing a rapid evolution (or revolution) towards what some have called Industry 4.0. In this new paradigm the factories are highly automated and computerized, all their processes are connected and interact with each other and with external processes. With instrumentation systems, PLCs (Programmable Logic Controllers), large amounts of data can be generated, which must be manipulated to convert them into useful information at each of the various levels of the manufacturing system: machine, manufacturing cell, assembly line, technical office, production management, etc.

Currently there are consolidated technologies in the industry such as PLCs, technologies that have been coexisting with the industry for a long time, but today, they are not adapted to the changes demanded. The new paradigms emerging in the industry such as Agile Manufacturing are introducing concepts such as the dynamic reconfiguration of manufacturing systems, and in particular from software. Although the most important concept is focused on connectivity in Industry 4.0. In this regard, new applicable technologies such as Big Data, Cloud Manufacturing and the Internet of Things (IoT) have emerged and introduced new standards in the production process.

1.1 Big Data

When we talk about Big Data, we mean the data sets or combinations of data sets whose size (volume), complexity (variability) and speed of growth (speed) make it difficult to capture, manage, process or analyze using conventional technologies and tools, such as relational databases and conventional statistics or visualization packages, within the time necessary for them to be useful.

The complex nature of Big Data is mainly due to the unstructured nature of much of the data generated by modern technologies, such as web logs, radio frequency identification (RFID), built-in sensors in devices, machinery, vehicles, Internet searches, social networks such as Facebook, laptops, smart phones and other mobile phones, GPS devices and call center records.

In most cases, in order to effectively use Big Data, it must be combined with structured data (usually

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from a relational database) of a more conventional commercial application, such as an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) or a CRM (Customer Relationship Management).

1.2 **Big Data for Predictive Maintenance. Making a Profit Comes First**

In general, maintenance can be classified as two main groups: Corrective (CM) Preventive (PM) and Predictive (PdM) Maintenance. CM is carried out when the machine fails or some of the elements of the equipment are damaged and must be replaced or repaired, this element and/or part will be responsible for a failure in the entire line if the action is not executed. PM is carried out to prevent fail, as a rutinary maintenance task. However, the PM is carried out before the equipment fails. The purpose of a PM order is to promote continuous production of the system and/or minimize the loss of performance. Usually, in the industry the indicator of deterioration is constructed through the monitoring of variables such as vibration, temperature and noise of the machine. However, if we want to avoid line shutdowns, it would be necessary to build Big Data and place these sensors on all machines and this would lead to exorbitant costs, (A.K.S.Jardine et al., 2006). Therefore, there is currently no system that performs this task in real time and for all machines, and this causes that, currently, only specific machines are sensorized and/or that one or more operators take measurements of the machines “manually”, that is, they transfer the sensors from one machine to another.

2 **PREVIOUS WORKS**

2.1 From the Micro-term to the Long-term

The literature classifies the data used in the analysis of the manufacturing process into two types, the long-term data (long-terms) and the short-term data (short-terms). Long-term data are used mainly for process planning while short-term data are used mainly for process control. There is abundant literature that works with the analysis of long-term times, in comparison with the literature that studies short-term times. Following the definition of (L.Li et al., 2009), the short-term data refer to a time not long enough for the failure period of the machine and where the cycle time of the machine is considered short-term time. In (E.Garcia, 2016) the short term is redefined in two new terms, the mini-term and the micro-term. A mini-term can be defined as the time that a part of the machine needs to perform its own task. This mini-term subdivision can be selected based on a policy of preventive maintenance or in a breakdown, in which it could be replaced in an easier and faster way than another sub-divided part of the machine. Also a mini-term could be defined as a sub-division that allows us to understand and study the machine behaviour. In the same way, a micro-term is defined as the time in which each part of the mini-term could be divided itself. This model has been published in (E.Garcia and N.Montes, 2017).

2.2 **Mini-term Degradation Path. A Change Point**

Prediction and analysis of degradation paths are important to condition-based maintenance (CBM). It is well known that the degradation paths are non-linear. It means that in the degradation path, a sudden change point appears when the RUL (Remaining Useful Life) is near the end, see (X.Zhao, 2018), (X.Zhao, 2014). Before the change point, the component works in optimal conditions and after the change point the component works in bad conditions alerting that the failure will happen soon.

The change point in the physical part of the machine components produces a similar effect in the sub-cycle time, that is, a change point in the mini-term, Figure 2 shows cases measured at Ford factory in Almussafes. When a change point is detected in the mini-term, an alarm must be activated for the maintenance workers to replace it, as soon as possible.

3 **TOWARDS BIG DATA BASED ON MINITERMS FOR PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE**

The results presented in (E.Garcia et al., 2018) generated a great expectation at Ford Motor Company, because the mini-term provides a great advantage over other sensors, it is easier and cheaper to install. It is cheap because no additional hardware installation is required to measure the sub-cycle time, just the use of the PLC and sensors installed for the automated production process, and it is easy because we only need to code extra timers into the PLC. Therefore, the Ford Motor Company began the implementation of mini-terms in its Almussafes plant and for this purpose the application shown in Figure 1 was devel-
oped, where the k-means algorithm is used to detect any change produced in the time series based in mini-terms, (E.Garcia and N.Montes, 2019). There are currently more than 11,000 mini-terms installed in the different plants at Ford in Valencia, which allowed us to move towards a big data of miniterms to analyze in depth the capabilities of the mini-term for failure prognostics.

4 GOAL OF THE PAPER

The process to collect and analyse mini-terms started at the end of 2018 at Almussafes factory. At present, three plants, Body 1, 2 and 3 have thousands of mini-terms collected in the Mini-term 4.0. The components analysed are: the welding guns (pneumatic and electrical), elevators, screwdriver, scissors tables, doors, etc. In these components, we can see different pathologies showing in the time series of the mini-term, from slow deteriorations to abrupt changes, oscillations, noise, positive and negative peaks, etc. Therefore, we need to identify the algorithm or combination of change point algorithms capable of detecting them effectively, minimizing the number of false positives. This paper intends to make a comparison of the most used change point algorithms in the literature by applying them to 10 selected cases in the application, Mini-term 4.0, which are representative of all the change point variants detected up to the present. Section 5 shows the 10 cases selected for the study. In section 6 the selected change point algorithms are shown and in section 7 the results obtained are shown. In section 8 there is a discussion of the results. Conclusions and future work are shown in section 9.

5 SELECTED EXAMPLES

The Mini-term 4.0 system monitors in real time all the mini-terms of the installed components and sends an e-mail to the maintenance operators when a behaviour change is detected using k-means, (E.Garcia and N.Montes, 2019). The maintenance operator checks the component and performs the necessary process if a pathology is really detected. In any case, the operator reports the false positive or the pathology detected to the Mini-term 4.0 system. Of the cases detected, 10 representative cases of the change point variability were selected, see Figure 2, these are:

- Case 1. Damaged flange in pneumatic clamp: The first type case is a damaged flange in one of the pneumatic clamps that needs to be changed.

- Case 2. Worn or split screw in pneumatic clamp: in this case we find a worn or split screw in one of the pneumatic clamps that needs to be changed or adjusted.

- Case 3. Metal chip adhered in pneumatic clamp: in this type case we find a metal chip adhered to one of the pneumatic clamps that needs to be cleaned and lubricated.

- Case 4. Lack of lubrication in the pneumatic clamp cylinder: in this case there is a lack of lubrication in the cylinder of one of the pneumatic clamps that needs to be lubricated.

- Case 5. Lack of lubrication in the pneumatic clamp valves: in this case there is a lack of lubrication in the valves of one of the pneumatic clamps that need to be lubricated.

- Case 6. Flange damaged in pneumatic clamp: in this case, as in the first case, we find a damaged flange in one of the pneumatic clamps, which needs to be changed.

- Case 7. Pneumatic clamp cylinder failure: in this type case we find a cylinder failure of one of the pneumatic clamps that needs to be replaced.

- Case 8. Air leak in the valves of a pneumatic clamp: in this case we can see an air leak in the valves of one of the pneumatic clamps whose joints need to be replaced.

- Case 9. Lack of lubrication in a screwdriver: in this case there is a lack of lubrication in one of the screwdrivers whose axes need to be lubricated.

- Case 10. Sudden failure of a pneumatic clamp: in this case we find a sudden failure of one of the pneumatic clamps that needs to be fully replaced. In this case the reason for the failure could not be found.

6 SELECTED CHANGE POINT ALGORITHMS

There is a wide variety of algorithms in the literature that are capable of detecting one or more points of change, showing their advantages and disadvantages, as well as their applications. In this paper we use the general algorithms that comprise the vast majority of algorithms present in the literature, see (Truong et al., 2019), (Truong et al., 2020). These algorithms can be classified as follows:

- 1. Optimization-based techniques (Opt): The detection of the change point, when the number of
change points is known, a discrete optimization problem can be considered for a finite number of examples.

- 2. Window sliding (Win): This technique is an approximation of the Opt techniques but using a much shorter computing time. It involves selecting a small number of examples, known as a window, and going through all the examples.

- 3. Binary segmentation (BinSeg): This technique is an approximation of the Opt techniques but using a shorter computing time. The technique involves, when the number of change points is known, segmenting the information in as many groups as there are change points. Due to its conceptual simplicity and ease of implementation, BinSeg is one of the most widely used techniques in the context of change point algorithms, (Truong et al., 2019), (Truong et al., 2020).

- 4. Search methods with penalty (Pelt): This technique is usually used when the number of change points is unknown. The intuitive (naive) way to solve it would be to use Opt algorithms with a high number of change points and then minimize the penalty rate. In this way, the computing time would be very high. Fortunately there are very efficient techniques to solve it, see (Truong et al., 2019), (Truong et al., 2020).

## 6.1 Selected Change Point Algorithms

The literature offers repositories of the algorithms programmed in the most common languages for detecting the change points described above, (Truong et al., 2019) offers the repositories programmed in R while (Truong et al., 2020) offers them programmed in Phyton. In this paper we work with the R repository, (Truong et al., 2019).

Since our problem is to find a single point of change, for the present work we have avoided algorithms that look for multiple points of change. Thus, the algorithms used in the study of this work are the following:

- 1. Trend repository. (Opt techniques)
  - 1. Pettitt’s test
  - 2. Buishand Range Test.
  - 4. Standard normal Homogeneity test
- 2. strucchange repository (Opt techniques)
  - 1. Fstats
  - 2. efp OLS-CUSUM
  - 3. efp Rec-CUSUM
  - 4. efp Rec-MOSUM
- 3. cpm repository (Win and BinSeg techniques)
  - 1. Student (Win, BinSeg)
  - 2. Bartlett (Win, BinSeg)
  - 3. GLR (Win, BinSeg)
  - 4. Mann-Whitney (Win, BinSeg)
  - 5. Exponential (Win, BinSeg)
  - 6. Mood (Win, BinSeg)
  - 7. Lepage (Win, BinSeg)
  - 8. Kolmogorov-Smirnov (Win, BinSeg)
- 3. Changepoint repository (Pelt techniques)
  - 1. Change of mean with “Normal” statistics
  - 2. Change of mean with “CUSUM” statistics
  - 3. Change of variance with “Normal” statistics
  - 4. Change of variance with “CSS” statistics
Figure 2: Selected cases at Almussafes factory by means of mini-term 4.0.
5. Change of mean and variance with “Normal” statistics
6. Change of mean and variance with “exponential” statistics

7 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, the selected change point methods will be evaluated through their application to each of the selected cases. To evaluate the goodness of each one of them and to be able to make a comparison, two of the most used measures will be taken into account to evaluate this type of methods: the Hausdorff metric and the computation time.

7.1 Hausdorff Metric

This metric evaluates the strength of the detection method for change points, measuring the distance between the actual position of the change point and the prediction of the technique. There are two ways of measuring distance, by measuring the number of examples or the time between the two points. In this study the Hausdorff metric will be defined as follows:

\[ H_a = \sum_{c=1}^{10} |P^*_c - \hat{P}_c| \]  

where \( H_a \) is the Hausdorff metric for the algorithm \( a \), \( P^*_c \) is the real point of change in case \( c \) and \( \hat{P}_c \) is the point of change estimated by algorithm \( a \) for case \( c \). The table shows the location of the change point for each case corresponding to figure 3. The change point marked with * is considered the real point of change. It is important to consider that there are cases, such as case 8 or 9, in which it is not trivial determining which the real point of change is. For this reason, in table 1 we can find more than one point marked as optimal.

7.2 Computational Costs

The computation time of the change point algorithms is another of the most used metrics and is one of the most important criterias of the change point algorithms. In the case of mini-terms, it is especially critical due to the large number of mini-terms that must be sensorized, which could be millions in a factory such as Ford’s. In the present study, the computation time will be considered as follows:

\[ t_a = \sum_{c=1}^{10} t^*_c \]  

where \( t_a \) is the total time to compute the 10 cases by using the algorithm \( a \) on a PC Intel Core i5 8600k, 6 cores, 3.6 Ghz, 16 MB RAM, 256GB SSD.

It is important to note that algorithms, which are not capable of providing a point of change in some cases, are discarded from the calculation of the Hausdorff metric and from computational time.

7.3 Discussion

As shown in table 1, the most precise change point detection algorithm is that of Bartlett, succeeding in all the proposed cases, followed by the mean and normal variance algorithm, giving error in only one of the cases. From the computational point of view, the mean and normal variance algorithm is the most efficient, being able to compute the 10 cases in 0.18 sec. Bartlett’s algorithm uses 4.02 sec. in its version (BinSeg) while it uses 2.38 sec. in its version (Win). It is important to highlight the computation time of case 9, whose time series has 24,000 data. In this case, the Bartlett (BinSeg) uses 0.51 sec. while the (Win) version uses 0.39 sec, in both cases Bartlett’s algorithm offers the same results.

8 CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORKS

In the present study we have done a comparison of the most used algorithms in the literature for the detection of the change point, applied to its use in the mini-terms. The great variability of machines and components, together with the development of Big data make the choice of the optimal algorithm important, both from the point of view of precision and its processing time. The present study concludes that the most effective detection algorithms are Bartlett’s together with the Mean and Normal Variance algorithms, being Bartlett’s algorithm the one that is right in all cases. At computational level, both are efficient algorithms. However, the Mean and Variance algorithm is much faster. Our future work will be focused on testing these two algorithms in Big Data mini-term 4.0 and assessing their overall effectiveness.

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Figure 3: Change point detection for each algorithm.
Table 1: Numerical results for each change point method VS Case VS metric. Change point marked with an ∗indicates that coincides with the optimal one.

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REFERENCES


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